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Rel

Everychild

By
Lena Dalkeith Burton

ANGER
SELF WILL
ILL WILL
PURPOSE
RIGHT THINKING
ORIGINALITY
RACE
YOUTH
MOCKERY

EVERYCHILD

MORALITY PLAY

By

LENA DALKEITH BURTON

in cooperation with

Marian Katherine Brown,

Originator of the Progress System of Moral Training

PRICE 25c, $2.40 PER DOZ.

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CHARACTERS

EVERYCHILD

SPIRIT OF YOUTH	SPIRIT OF PROGRESS
POSITIVES	NEGATIVES
PURPOSE	FEAR
RIGHT THINKING	ANGER
ORIGINALITY	ILL WILL
GOOD JUDGMENT	LAZINESS
RESOLUTENESS	UNKINDNESS
ENERGY	REGRET
SELF-CONTROL	ENVY
SELF-CONFIDENCE*	Deceit, Flattery, Lying, Thieving. Discouragement, Worry, Indecision, Disorder
Spirit of Wholesome Laughter	The Imp of Mockery

*Acrostic Copyrighted 1911 by Marian K. Brown.

Notes

Each character wears a large shield made of card-board with his name painted thereon, the Negatives black, irregular shaped, with white letters, the Positives white with green letters. Selfwill carries in addition to his shield, a black pennant with no lettering. The Spirit of Progress carries a green banner, with his name thereon.

The initials of the Progress qualities are very large so that when they are in order, the word PROGRESS stands out clearly. The initials of Fear, Anger, Illwill, Laziness, Unkindness, Regret and Envy, spelling FAILURE, should also be prominent.

SONG OF PROGRESS

LENA DALKEITH BURTON — ISIDORA MARTINEZ

1. We are young and strong and true, We shall make the old world new, Trust us!
2. All we know and all we've learned, All the pow - er we have earned, To the
3. Ma - ny prob-lems we must face; We shall sure - ly have a place In the
4. We are young and strong and true, We shall make the old world new, Trust us!

see what we shall do, Pro-gress! pro-gress! we're for you! Trust us! see what we shall
world shall be re-turned, To the world shall be re-turned, All the pow - er we have
up - lift of the race, In the up - lift of the race, We shall sure - ly have a
see what we shall do, Pro-gress! pro-gress! we're for you! Trust us! see what we shall

D.C. without pause

do, Trust us! see what we shall do, Pro-gress! progress! we're for you, progress, we're for you!
earned, To the world shall be returned, Pro-gress! progress! we're for you, progress, we're for you!
place In the up - lift of the race, Pro-gress! progress! we're for you, progress, we're for you!
do, Trust us! see what we shall do, Pro-gress! progress! we're for you, progress, we're for you!

When desired, can be sung in two parts, by utilizing the lower notes in the right hand of accompaniment; singing the first three notes in unison with the upper voice

SCENE

Everychild lies asleep at centre of stage. On the extreme right (of the audience) is seated the Spirit of Progress. On the extreme left, the Spirit of Youth. Both are writing.

. . . PROLOGUE . . .

Spirit of Youth
[to audience stopping in his work and laying finger on lip]

I pray you hush and hear !
For now the time is drawing near
When on this stage there shall appear
Some things that happen every day
In real life as in this play:
Some things that come to every child
Whether he be fierce or mild,
Merry or mournful, weak or wild.
The chance doth come to all to use
Their own good judgment and to choose
That upward way which leads them on
To heights on which success is won

As he speaks the Imp of Mockery steals forth to listen.

Imp of mockery
[interrupts with loud laugh.]

Ha ! Ha ! Ha !

Spirit of Youth
[turning]

Hallo ! The play has not begun,
What are *you* here for ?

Imp of Mockery

Just for fun !
To see the way the thing is done,
A very poor way too I fear !
Now look at all these people here,
D'ye think they understand a word
Of all the stuff that they've just heard?
Do you know what he means ? Now say
D'ye know there is to be a play ?

[Appealing to audience]

Spirit of Youth

I'm telling them what we're to do.

Imp of Mockery

I didn't understand (to audience) did you ?
Tell us once more and make it plain,
I'd like to hear it all again.

Spirit of Youth Hark! I hear them!

Imp of Mockery Hark! Hear who? Cats
Or dogs or elephants or rats.

Spirit of Youth
to audience paying no heed to Imp This is what we intend to do . . .

Imp of Mockery J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q.
I too can make a pretty rhyme!

Spirit of Youth Now is the moment! now the time!

Imp of Mockery See how he sleeps! How can he choose
Twixt Right and Wrong? And what's the use?

Spirit of Youth Behold! how every child doth sleep,
While we his comrades watch do keep
Until what time he shall awake!

Mockery And pray what choice hath he to make?
The downward path he's sure to take,
Ha! Ha! What fun to see him go!

Spirit of Youth Ah that, not even you may know

Mockery Such fun 'twill be! Ha! Ha! Ho! Ho!

Spirit of Youth Keep still! Rash imp (to audience)
Dear friends, you see
Approaching us, the company
That Everychild keeps in his soul,
For his own happiness or dole.
They are divided and each day
He must make up his mind, and say
Which party shall have place and power.

Spirit of Youth resumes his seat at left of stage.

Enter Negatives in disorder to a series of discords. They range themselves on the left of audience on platform. Come the Positives, in order, and range themselves on the Right. They march to the song of Progress.

Selfwill [advancing toward centre]
Come on Good Gossips, 'tis the hour!
Now is the time to plot our end.

Flattery [coming forward]
You always know what's best my friend,
Come, let us hear him!

Fear
Who can tell
How we may overcome the spell
That Love and Truth and Progress weave!

Deceit
'Tis easy surely to deceive

Imp of Lying
Teach him to lie!

Imp of Thieving
To steal!

Imp of Flattery
See Truth and pass her by

Laziness
Soothe him to long, forgetful sleep!

Worry
Teach him to fret

Regret
Teach him to weep!

Discouragement
Until at last he loses heart!

Anger
Aye, Aye! but let me do my part
I'll make him grow as hot with rage
As any tiger in a cage

Selfwill
Stop all that talking! Let me plan
What there's to do as best I can.
I warn you there's no time to spare;
Our foes are strong: we must beware.

Illwill
What nonsense! We have naught to fear
Are we not safely sheltered here
Welcomed and served with ample cheer?
Again I ask you what's to fear?

Fear
But lately Everychild to me
Spoke harshly!

Unkindness
[laughing]

I did laugh to see
Him push you roughly down the stair
Into the cellar.

Fear

If he dares
To do a thing like that, it shows
He might do more, he might give blows!

Lying

He might of course show us the door!

Flattery

We'd soon be back again once more

Disorder
[shivering]

He takes a cold bath now each day,
Whieh makes me dizzy with dismay.
His hands and nails he keeps so clean;
Who knows indeed what this may mean?

Selfwill
[loudly and clearly while all crowd around]

I have it! I have found the plot
Whether you'll join with me or not.
Listen! Today he did receive
Two letters, one he was to give
To a boy friend an old schoolmate

Envy

I know,—that one he used to hate,
He was his eager rival too
In work and play.

Laziness

What's that to do
With us?

Selfwill

Harken and I will tell!

Imp of Mockery

You think you know it all so well!

Illwill

You think you're master here, Swelled pate!

Selfwill

If Everychild gives to his mate
This note our plans will be frustrate,
Our power lessened; we shall be
Pushed out by that strong company
Who plot our ruin. Now mark me
We must make Everychild obey
Our wishes

Flattery

He'll not say *me* nay!

Envy

I'll tell him 'tis the only way;
If he destroy the letter then
He ne'er need fear his mate again

Selfwill

And if he doth the letter show
He'll lose the prize, for he is slow
As t'other boy is quick

Thieving

So! So!
Is that the way the wind doth blow?
Then I can help.

Selfwill

Hush! Quiet now—
They are stirring!

Spirit of Progress
[moving forward]

On thy fair brow
I touch thee! Everychild! awake!

Selfwill
[on the other side]

I too my little share must take
In this awakening!

Everychild
[awakening and yawning]

Hallo!
What time is it? *(looks at watch)*
Ah! time to go
With that old letter, bother it!
I wish it never had been writ.

Laziness
[sympathetic]

It *is* a drag! Why don't you sit
And rest a little while, and then
Run the whole way?

Energy — I know of men
Who never tire; who walk and run,
Wrestle and leap, when work is done—

Laziness [scornfully] — But that's a very different story;
Of course there's fun in that and glory,
But this is just a common tale.

Flattery — The poor lad's half asleep!

Discouragement — How pale
He looks too! he had better rest.

Laziness — So sleep again, that will be best!

Spirit of Wholesome laughter [singing] — Hush a by baby on a tree top, when the wind
blows the cradle will rock, etc.

Everychild [crossly-rousing up more and more] — Oh what's the use! I have to go
Whether I'm willing to or no.
Where did I put that wretched thing?

Resoluteness Purpose — It's in your pocket
I will bring
Your hat for you.

Energy — And I your coat.

Everychild — Ah! Here at last I've found the note!
Here's mine too, word for word the same
Except of course address and name.
Hark what the great man says to me:

[reads] — "Come Sir tomorrow punctually;
Be at my house at stroke of ten,
There I shall see you both, and then
Decide. One boy shall be my choice;
Which e'er it be he can rejoice.
Life to him shall prosperous be,
So long as he shows virtues three.
He must have sense and honesty,
Nor fail in punctuality."

Indecision
[detaining Everychild as he makes a movement to put on his coat]

Dear boy, one little moment wait!
There's time enough, you'll not be late
But think before you fling away
The chances that are yours, today!

Everychild

I don't understand, chances you say?

Deceit
[clearly and loudly]

'Tis very plain? If you destroy
The letter, then the other boy
Will not be there and you will be
The chosen one. Can you not see?
Its only common-sense, no more.

Lying

And smartness!

Flattery

That I do adore!

Selfwill

You have yourself and your career
To think of first.—

Flattery

That's so!

Lying
[speaking at same time]

Hear! Hear!

Fear

But could he not perchance forget
The letter? None would know.

Illwill

Why let
Him beat you once again? he's played
You many a meaner trick—

Selfwill
[scornfully]

He's afraid!

Everychild
[slowly]

If I to him the letter show
He will be chosen; this I know.
Always, always, it has been so,
He will begin his life work,—yes—
He will win riches, fame, success;
I shall be left.

Selfwill I must confess
You will be left behind far, far
Behind.

Deceit All's fair in love and war.

Everychild And I want it as much as he
And more,— I long, I long to be
A great man—to win power and fame;
To be a leader in the game—
To gain the power with which to serve—
To give myself without reserve—
Right wrongs; change evil into good—
To forward human brotherhood.

Purpose To face the world with steady eyes,
Glad with the light of enterprise.

Right Thinking Noble and wise—strong, pure, and true,
Your deeds shall show the heart of you.

Originality Yea, you shall be yourself
Your individual mark shall be
Set on each deed for all to see.
The keenness of your brain—your skill
Are yours to do with what you will,
This world expects the best from you,
Work that no other one can do.

Deceit Destroy the note: 'Twill ne'er be known;
One moment and the thing is done!

Good Judgment The power to choose is yours by right,
And always if you search, there's light,
Wisdom and knowledge shining bright
Upon your way.

Resoluteness Courageous,—strong
There's naught can hinder you for long.

Selfwill Be strong then now! be strong and dare
To take your chance!

Illwill It's only fair

Energy You have in you such strength of will,
Such power to work, such force to thrill
The world with, that I wonder still
How you could dream of failure, even
If to your mate the note is given.

Self Confidence You know that you yourself can do
All that this man demands of you.

Self Control You know that even if you lose
There is much left from which to choose.
You know that you can proudly meet
Your fate, victory or defeat
Whichever 'tis you will be strong;
Your life, your fate to you belong.

Selfwill Then take your chance! Make your own fate!

Illwill Remember he's the one you hate.

Indecision Leave it a little longer,—wait!

Good Judgment Not so—for Everychild must now
Make his own choice.

Imp of Mockery Bow wow! Bow wow!
Oh was there ever such a fuss!

The Negatives (grouped together) Now Everychild! Decide for us!

Spirit of Self-Control Silence all! Everychild commands
And we obey him. In his hands
And at his mercy are we all.
He speaks, and we do stand or fall.

Selfwill Oh never fear. You'll have to go—
'Tis we he loves, I tell you so!

Self Control Be silent now, he must be free!

Everychild advances to front of stage holding the letter and looking at it in a perplexed undecided way. He turns and looks at the Negatives and then at the Positives.

Everychild You are the ones I wish to choose,
[to Positives] And yet, . . .and yet. . .*(pause)* I can't break loose
[Pointing to Neg.] From the strange hold *these* have on me.

(All Negatives make a slight movement toward Everychild and open their mouths as if to speak but the Spirit of Progress silences them)

Self Control May I not your helper be?
Say but the word, you shall be free.

(Everychild hesitates for a moment, then straightens up, turns his back on Negatives, motioning them away and holds out hands to Self-Control saying

Everychild YES!

(Positives eagerly step forward as Self-Control beckons to them. Whereupon Indecision darts rapidly off the stage. All Negatives, dismayed, take a step or two backward. Everychild puts letter in pocket, puts on coat and hat helped by Positives who crowd round him. All Negatives except Selfwill retreat slowly to back of stage)

Selfwill You surely dare not think that I
blusteringly Can banished be so easily.

Everychild I am the master here! Away!
My slightest word you shall obey.

[Selfwill goes out]

As the Negatives are about to leave the stage they line up in this order:
Fear, Anger, Illwill, Laziness, Unkindness, Regret, Envy

Spirit of Mockery F–A–I–L–U–R–E!
[Pointing to their initials] Well! you're a pretty company! [Exit Negatives]

Meanwhile the qualities which form the Progress Acrostic, line up in order

Everychild P–R–O–G–R–E–S–S!
[pointing to their initials] (To audience) Don't you think that I chose the right ones?
(Audience) Yes!

FINAL TABLEAU

Everychild stands in the centre, the Spirit of Youth at his left and the Spirit of Progress at his right, each with a hand on Everychild s shoulder. The Progress qualities form a semi-circle in back of this group. All sing the Song of Progress. The Negatives, having taken off their Shields, come back and join n the Song.

The Progress System

Of Moral Training in Public Schools on which "Everychild" is Based.

The System is founded on the combination of qualities given below, the Acrostic at the left being used in the lower, and the one at the right in the upper grades.

Patience	**P**urpose
Right thinking	**R**ight thinking
Orderliness	**O**riginality
Good behavior	**G**ood judgment
Readiness	**R**esoluteness
Effort	**E**nergy
Self-control	**S**elf-control
Self-dependence	**S**elf-confidence*

*Acrostic Copyrighted 1911 by Marian K. Brown.

The literature of the System comprises the following pamphlets:

I **The Progress System.** In two parts—one for lower and one for upper grades. This describes the methods used to arouse the Self-Activity of the children and to direct it in right channels. Concrete illustrations from the mechanical world form the point of contact with the children's interests.

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. . . . IN PREPARATION . . . .

V A Play for the lower grades, corresponding to "Everychild."

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